



**Court of Protection
Services**

Clarion

Court of protection costs

We aim to help you speed up your cash flow and enhance your costs recovery through our expert COP costs advice. Acting for firms nationwide, we are a dedicated team of legal cost specialists and we are passionate about helping deputies receive fair payment for their hard work. Flexible, practical and commercially minded, we are fully aware of the pressures and constraints within the complex and shifting landscapes of legal costs.

- We have a dedicated team of Court of Protection legal costs specialists, who deal with these matters on a day-to-day basis.
- We share the same passion as other stakeholders, including Solicitors for the Elderly and the Professional Deputies Forum, regularly working with them to achieve positive change for the industry.
- We represented the four parties in the landmark case of *PLK & Others* [2020] as their costs provider to achieve a 20% uplift to the GHR for COP practitioners.
- Between us, we have over 80 years' experience and appreciate that the costing process has its difficulties, therefore we aim to make this process as smooth as possible.
- We have a national reputation for our Court of Protection expertise and can deal with all matters including deputyship applications, general management years, statutory will applications, property periods, welfare proceedings and power of attorney matters.
- We prepare over 2,000 bills of costs in Court of Protection cases per year, and are able to identify common themes on assessment, in addition to assisting with requests for re-assessments and appeals.
- We understand the surrounding case law, statutes and authority guidelines to ensure the most effective and thorough service.
- We are instructed by over 150 Court of Protection firms nationwide, including 45% of the panel deputies.
- When you instruct us, we will tell you the cost of our services from the offset, so there are no surprises along the way. When it comes to the assessment of the bill, you are not expected to pay the shortfall, we offer a costs-neutral service.
- Our average costs recovery is 94% on assessment.
- We often recover in excess of 100% of our clients' WIP, as a result of our recoverability advice.

“We have tried a number of other firms within this area and we kept getting drawn back to Clarion as they are the best in their field in our opinion.”

– Chambers UK

Key contacts



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Court of Protection & personal injury trusts

We have a large talented team of lawyers who specialise in mental capacity advice. We have a vast amount of knowledge and experience in Court of Protection practice.

Clarion acts as professional deputy and attorney for more than 100 clients who are supported by our experienced team with care, professionalism and respect. We look after the whole person and ensure that where a health and welfare matter arises, an appropriate professional is brought in to deal with it. The Clarion approach is that if a client needs advice that is not our area of expertise, we make sure that we find a solution. This approach permeates the Court of Protection work that we do as it does all areas of Clarion's legal practice.

We act as an independent professional deputy where there has been a dispute that has been settled and are often called upon by fellow legal professionals to fulfil this role due to our expertise in this area. We also work alongside our fellow Court of Protection practitioners where multiple parties to proceedings in the Court of Protection require independent advice.

We advise lay deputies on their duties and obligations as deputy as well as providing specific advice on a wide range of applications relating to property and financial affairs in the Court of Protection.

The team regularly provide talks and information sessions to charities and community groups, reflecting their strong belief that access to high quality information is vital to clients with care and support needs and their families.

“Lynsey is exceptionally experienced and able, but always shows great pragmatism, sensitivity and common sense.”

– Chambers UK

Key contacts



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Court of Protection disputes

The Contentious Private Client team is headed up by Partner Lynsey Harrison. Lynsey is vastly experienced and nationally recognised as a leading lawyer in this area. She is ranked in Chambers as a tier 3 UK wide lawyer, one of only 15 lawyers.

The rest of the team also have significant experience of these types of disputes. The skills required by lawyers in this field are very different from those of a commercial litigator. Lynsey's team is comfortable dealing with highly complex and contentious mental capacity disputes whilst using their emotional intelligence to support clients in a sensible and thoughtful manner.

Disputes can often arise in respect of the property and affairs of a person who may lack mental capacity. This type of dispute may be concerning who will administer that person's financial affairs? Are that person's financial affairs being administered correctly? Does the person who lacks capacity need a statutory will? Is the person being financially abused?

In these circumstances, our specialist team will provide expert advice to resolve these often sensitive and distressing matters. The team always try to ensure that the vast majority of the disputes are settled before litigation is commenced but if needed, as a last resort, our ACTAPS qualified lawyers will litigate to robustly protect the interest of our clients and their families.

Lynsey is also often instructed to act as a professional deputy and litigation friend and is highly skilled at dealing with these matters efficiently and fairly.

The team and Lynsey also deal with all aspects of contentious private client work and Lynsey is also regularly appointed to act as an independent administrator or trustee. She is appointed by the parties by agreement or alternatively by court order and will step in to ensure that the estate is finalised and distributed as quickly as possible and any trust is managed professionally.

“Not only has she consistently shown commitment and the highest level of professional knowledge and skills, but her understanding and empathy have been invaluable to me.”

– Legal 500

Key contacts



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The background is an abstract, marbled pattern with swirling, organic shapes. The color palette is primarily dark blue and purple, with some lighter, almost white, highlights that create a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is reminiscent of traditional marbling techniques or perhaps a microscopic view of certain materials.

We ask questions, we are curious,
we solve problems, we develop
relationships.

Get to know us

The investment that we continually make in our people and our clients is reflected in the high calibre of our lawyers and support teams and the results we achieve. At the close of 2022, The Lawyer reported Clarion as the third fastest growing law firm in Europe, based on growth over the last five full financial years. In 2023 we have been named Independent Law Firm of the Year by The Lawyer.

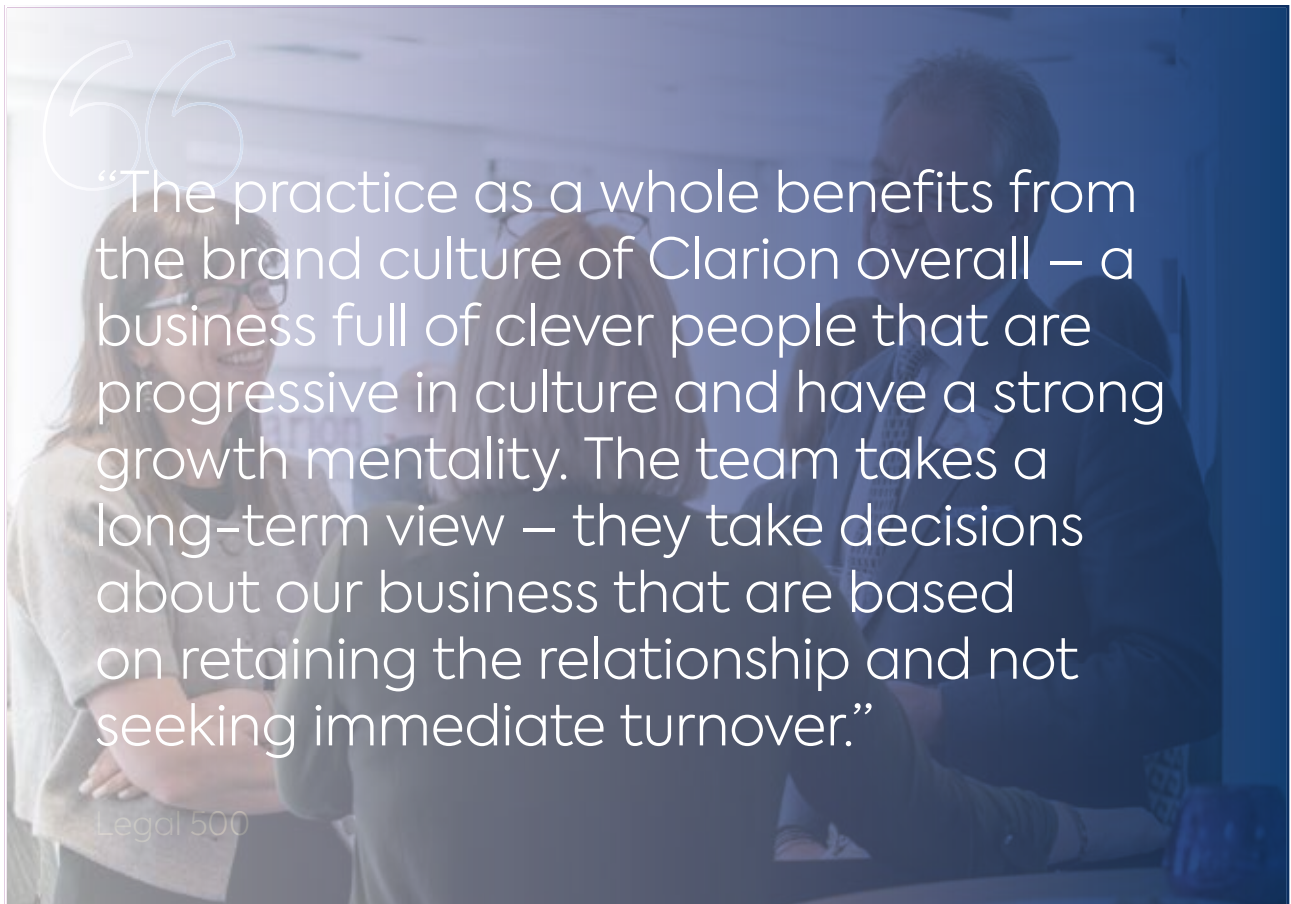
We are clear about where we want to be in the legal market and who we want to work with.

We are uniquely placed to service our clients' full business needs as well as protect them personally by offering a full complement of corporate services alongside one of the largest private wealth teams in the region.

We invest proportionally more than most law firms in developing our people and culture, to ensure that we create well-rounded people, who are best able to deliver an outstanding client experience. Increasingly, organisations are choosing Clarion because of our people and our culture.

In 2020 we were ranked No. 8 in the prestigious Sunday Times 'Best Small Companies to Work For' list which recognises the 100 companies throughout the UK with the most engaged teams. Clarion was also the highest ranked law firm in the UK and achieved the highest ranking of any business in Yorkshire that year. Clarion achieved a three star accreditation in the 2020 'Best Companies to Work For' scheme, which is the highest available accreditation.

In 2022, Clarion achieved a three star accreditation in the 'Best Companies to Work For' scheme for the second time. We have also been named No.1 law firm to work for in the UK and No.2 Best Large Company to work for in the UK.



“The practice as a whole benefits from the brand culture of Clarion overall – a business full of clever people that are progressive in culture and have a strong growth mentality. The team takes a long-term view – they take decisions about our business that are based on retaining the relationship and not seeking immediate turnover.”

Legal 500

Clarion values

Our people strategy flows from what it means to be Clarion. The service we provide is always rooted in our strong values where we:

**Stand in our
clients' shoes**

**Stand
together**

**Stand
out**

Clarion in the community

We believe that every business can, and should, play an active and valuable role in supporting the community in which it works, bringing tangible personal development and other benefits we can all enjoy.

Examples of some of the community projects which we are involved in include the following:

- we have been the headline sponsor of the Leeds Jane Tomlinson 10k Corporate Challenge for over 15 years and in 2023 we are proud sponsors of the Leeds Rob Burrow Marathon;
- a number of our lawyers at Clarion share their expertise with students at local high schools and BPP as part of ongoing mentoring programmes;
- we have been recognised by the Leeds Dementia Action Alliance for becoming 'dementia friendly' and are active supporters of Carers Leeds; and
- Clarion is proud to support various charities, which are chosen on an annual basis by the team, and during the current financial year we are enjoying supporting Candlelighters.

“Clarion has the knowledge and talent base of a large corporate, but the attitude of a smaller, family run business, providing the personal touch that’s often lacking in big legal firms.”

– Mike Drakard, founding shareholder, Dene Healthcare



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